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FDA
OFFICE
CHIEF /

6311 Wilson Lane
Bethesda, MD 20817
March 9, 1999

Commissioner Jane E. Henney
FDA (HFE-88)
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20817

Dear Commissioner Henney:

I am writing to inform you that I disagree with your decision to allow food to go through the irradiation process, and I will explain to you why in the following paragraphs.

I believe that this should not be done because for one thing, I don't know about you, but I know that most people would not really enjoy eating food that they know has been put into a cell with gamma rays shooting into it. Even though I do know that the food does not become radioactive after going through the irradiation process, it still makes me feel weird knowing that the food I eat has been "electrically" treated.

Another concern that I have is that a New Jersey Medical School report says that "animals fed irradiated food lost weight and had miscarriages, and that irradiation damages vitamins in food." So that would probaly mean that people who eat irradiated food will also probably have the same problems the animals had, plus people will not be able to get full vitamin material in their irradiated food.

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Yet another concern I have is that in a CBS News national poll last summer, 77% said that they wouldn't eat irradiated food. That means that if food starts being irradiated a lot of it will be wasted for not many people will eat it.

In conclusion, I think that food should not be irradiated for the above reasons.

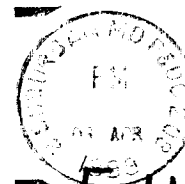
Sincerely,
Emily Deans

EXECU

6311 Wilson Lane
Bethesda, MD 20817
March 26, 1999

Commissioner Jane E. Henney
FDA

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Rockville, MD 20817



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